

REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance of the subject patent application are respectfully requested.

Applicant's representative thanks Examiner Shibru for the courtesy extended during telephone discussions regarding the subject patent application. The substance of these discussions is reflected in the remarks below.

Claims 1, 3, 6, 7, 9, 10, 12-14, 16, 18, 19, 30, 33, 35-40, 42-45 and 48 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. Section 103(a) as allegedly being made "obvious" by a proposed combination of Utsumi et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,400,667) and Ishida (U.S. Patent Publication No. 2003/0133387). Claims 21, 23, 25-28, 46 and 47 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. Section 103(a) as allegedly being "obvious" over the proposed Utsumi et al.-Ishida combination, further in view of Official Notice. While not acquiescing in these rejections for, inter alia, the reasons set forth in the prior responses, claims 1, 9, 12, 18, 21, 27, 30, 33 and 36 have been amended. The discussion below makes reference to the amended claims.

As discussed in the prior responses and in the above-noted telephone discussions, Applicant respectfully submits that Utsumi et al. does not disclose, teach or suggest the claimed cyclical outputting (or repeated transmitting) of information. At the Examiner's suggestion, Applicant has amended the independent claims to more specifically describe this feature. For example, claim 1 recites

wherein the outputting device cyclically outputs the whole of the same main information by repeatedly returning to the beginning of the main information when the end thereof is reached

By way of example and without limitation, this feature finds support in the specification at page 3, lines 23-25; page 4, lines 7-10; and page 7, line 26 to page 8, line 2.

No such cyclical outputting is disclosed or suggested by Utsumi et al. and Ishida does not remedy this deficiency. Utsumi et al. describes recording AUX-TOC information three times, but, as previously discussed, this does not constitute cyclically outputting main information. Consequently, claim 1 patentably distinguishes from the proposed Utsumi et al.-Ishida combination.

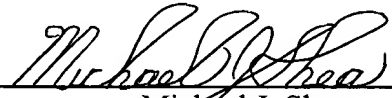
Independent claims 9, 12, 18, 30, 33 and 36 have been amended along the same lines as claim 1. Consequently, these claims and the claims that depend therefrom likewise patentably distinguish from the proposed Utsumi et al.-Ishida combination.

With respect to claims 21, 23, 25-28, 46 and 47, even assuming (without agreeing) that the taking of Official Notice were proper, the proposed combination of Utsumi et al. and Ishida would still be deficient with respect to the claimed cyclical outputting recited in claims 21 and 27. Consequently, these claims and the claims that depend therefrom patentably distinguish over the art applied in the office action.

The pending claims are believed to be allowable and favorable office action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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